

October 27, 2023

Dear Tribal Leader:

The Administration for Children and Families' Office of Child Care (OCC) announced a Request for Information (RFI) titled: *Meeting the Child Care Needs in Tribal Nations*. This request was published in the Federal Register on July 27, 2023, and can be found on the Federal Register website. In addition to the in-person Tribal Consultation planned for November 29-30, 2023, in Albuquerque, New Mexico, OCC will also host an in-person Tribal Consultation November 27, 2023, at the Cook Inlet Tribal Council in Anchorage, AK to discuss the RFI. This November 27 OCC Tribal Consultation is the day before the 2023 Bureau of Indian Affairs Tribal Provider's Conference in Anchorage, AK. Due to time and space limitations, this Tribal Consultation is open only to Alaska Native villages and corporations. The registration form, draft agenda, and other logistics information can be found on the OCC Tribal Consultation website.

OCC seeks input on whether existing Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) requirements, regulations, and processes are appropriate for Tribal Nations to implement CCDF in a manner that best meets the needs of the children, families, and child care providers in their Nations and communities, and that properly recognizes the principles of strong government-to-government relationships and Tribal sovereignty.

Please visit the <u>RFI resource page</u> on the OCC website to learn more about the topics included and the information requested.

OCC will keep the Tribal Consultation testimony record open through January 2, 2024. Written testimony may be submitted to OCC at OCCTribal@acf.hhs.gov.

Should you have any questions about the consultation, please email OCCTribal@acf.hhs.gov.

We look forward to working together to envision a CCDF program that supports Tribal Nations' efforts to promote the early learning and development of Native children and family economic stability and well-being.

Sincerely,
Ruth J. Friedman -S
Date: 2023.10.26 19:26:23 -04'00'
Ruth Friedman, Ph.D.
Director
Office of Child Care